



**PATENT**  
Attorney's Docket No. SST-1148  
Express Mail Label No. EV 459417415 US

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

*In re* application of: Alfred D. Commins et al.

Conf. No. 9692

Application No.: 09/922,581

Examiner: Winnie S. YIP

Filed: August 3, 2001

Art Unit: 3636

For: BUILDING WALL FOR RESISTING LATERAL FORCES

**MAIL STOP RCE**  
**Commissioner for Patents**  
**P.O. Box 1450**  
**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

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I hereby certify that this correspondence, including listed enclosures, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. BOX 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on June 15, 2006.

Signed: Tracy L. Morton  
Tracy L. Morton

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Prosecution in the above-identified application is closed, as the Patent Office has issued a Notice of Allowance dated March 15, 2006. This is a request for continued examination, accompanied by the appropriate fee and this submission, prior to payment of the Issue Fee. The submission constitutes an Information Disclosure Statement only. No changes to the claims are requested.

Applicant believes that no extension of time is required; however, this is a conditional petition and authorization to pay the necessary fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.36(a) to provide for the possibility that Applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition and fee for extension of time.

Applicant submits herewith patents, publications or other information, of which Applicant is aware that Applicant believes may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which, there may be a duty to disclose. The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists. The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. (Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.)

This information disclosure statement is accompanied by Form PTO/SB/08 (substitute for Form PTO-1449) and legible copies of all cited patent documents and non-patent literature listed in said form.

The person making this certification is the practitioner who signs below on the basis of the information supplied by the inventor(s) and in the practitioner's file.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 and the requisite fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e).

While no further fee is believed to be due, if this belief is in error the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees, including extension fees or other relief which may be required for this paper, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 03-4075 (Atty. Docket No. SST-1148).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 15, 2006

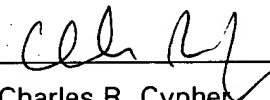
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Attachments: Form PTO/SB/08 (3 pp)  
44 cited references

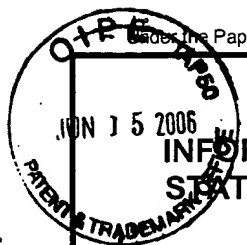
  
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(MODIFIED)INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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Sheet

1

of

3

## Complete if Known

Application Number	09/922,581
Filing Date	08/03/2001
First Named Inventor	Alfred D. Commins
Group Art Unit	3636
Examiner Name	Yip, Winnie S.
Attorney Docket Number	SST/1148

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

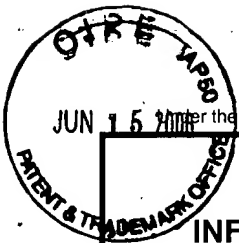
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	U.S. Patent Document Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	A1	US- 2002/0020122 A1	02/21/2002	Mueller	
	A2	US 2002/0002806 A1	01/10/2002	Commings et al.	
	A3	US- 2003/0009964 A1	01/16/2003	Trarup et al.	
	A4	US 2004/0068947A1	04/15/2004	Commings et al.	
	A5	US 2005/0126105 A1	06/16/2005	Leek et al.	
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	A7	US 2,271,584	02/03/1942	Fellom	
	A8	US 4,037,281	07/26/1977	Reynolds	
	A9	US 4,037,379	07/26/1977	Ozanne	
	A10	US- 4,577,826	03/25/1986	Bergström et al.	
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	A14	US- 5,279,088	01/18/1994	Heydon	
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	A25	US- 6,308,469 B1	10/30/2001	Leung	
	A26	US- 6,327,831 B1	12/11/2001	Leek	
	A27	US- 6,668,508 B2	12/30/2003	Boone et al.	

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Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English Language Translation is attached.

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO (MODIFIED)				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	09/922,581
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>				Filing Date	08/03/2001
				First Named Inventor	Alfred D. Commins
				Group Art Unit	3636
				Examiner Name	Yip, Winnie S.
(use as many sheets as necessary)				Attorney Docket Number	SST/1148
Sheet	2	of	3		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>2</sup> Number <sup>1</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
	B1	WO 96/02713	02/01/1996	Paul, Arthur J.		
	B2	GB 2 315 288A	01/28/1998	DSC Engineering		
	B3					
	B4					

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.				T <sup>6</sup>
	C1	BULLDOG A/S, BULLDOG Timber Connectors, "Develop Full Strength of Timber Members at Connections", date unknown, (Oslo, Norway), (total of 2 pages, double sided).				
	C2	BULLDOG Steel Safety Timber Connectors by Theodorsen, C. E., 1938, (Oslo, Norway), (total of 4 pages, double sided).				
	C3	Hurri-Bolt Uplift Solutions, "The Truss Tie-Down That Will Blow You Away", Engineering Manufacturing & Installation, SBCCI Report #9910, at least as early as July 28, 1999 (Tampa, FL, U.S.A.), (total of 6 pages, double sided).				
	C4	ICBO Evaluation Service, Inc., Evaluation Report ER-5467, "FASTENERS - Wood Hangers and Framing Anchors", November 1, 1998, (Whittier, CA, U.S.A.), (total of 2 pages, double sided).				
	C5	ICBO Evaluation Service, Inc., Evaluation Report PFC-5342, "DESIGN - Steel", September 1, 1999, (Whittier, CA, U.S.A.), (total of 6 pages, double sided).				
	C6	MBR Systems, "Typical Component Installation Details", June 9, 1993, (South San Francisco, CA, U.S.A.), (total of 4 pages, double sided).				
	C7	PROBOLT, "Structural Tie Down System", Listed SBCCI PST & ESI No. 9916, at least as early as July 28, 1999, (Orlando, FL, U.S.A.), (total of 8 pages, double sided).				
	C8	Seismic Solutions structural tie downs, "Quake-Tie", The Superior Hold-Down Solution, January 20, 1997, (Glenn Ellen, CA, U.S.A.), (total of 5 pages, double sided).				
	C9	Simplified Structural Systems, "Maker of The Hardy Frame", September 1, 1999, (Ventura, CA, U.S.A.), (total of 6 pages, double sided).				
	C10	Simpson Strong-Tie Company, Inc., "Strong-Wall Shearwall", ICBO Code No. PFC-5485, 1999, (U.S.A.), (pages 1-6).				
	C11	Simpson Strong-Tie Company, Inc., "Strong-Wall Shearwall", ICBO ER PFC 5485, 2001, (U.S.A.), (total of 10 pages, double sided).				

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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Sheet **3** of **3**

**Complete if Known**

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Filing Date **08/03/2001**

First Named Inventor **Alfred D. Commins**

Group Art Unit **3636**

Examiner Name **Yip, Winnie S.**

Attorney Docket Number **SST/1148**

**OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>6</sup>
	C12	Simpson Strong-Tie Company, Inc., Catalog C-96, "MKP, LBP/BP, RFB", 1995, (U.S.A.), (page 19).	
	C13	The Journal of Light Construction, "Heating System Makeup Air", December, 1999, (U.S.A.), (front cover, pages 4, 5, 50-53).	
	C14	ZWALL, Every Home Needs Z-Walls, "The Strongest Shear Wall in the Smallest Space", date unknown, (U.S.A.), (total of 2 pages, double sided).	
	C15	ZWALL, ZWALL Shear Walls, "Strength Where You Need It", at least as early as June 13, 2001, <a href="http://www.z-wall.com">www.z-wall.com</a> , (total of 2 pages, double sided).	
	C16	FOLIENTE, G.C., ed. <i>Earthquake Performance and Safety of Timber Structures</i> . Forest Products Society. Madison, Wisconsin. 1997. (See in particular: KARALIC, M. "Analysis of Performance of Floors and Shear Walls with the New Engineered Bracing Systems," pp. 115-124 and COMMINS, A. et al., "Effect of Hold-Downs and Stud-Frame Systems on the Cyclic Behavior of Wood Shear Walls," pp. 142-146)	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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